A Condensed Timeline of Events

17th Century: First missionary-operated school established near Quebec City, 1620–1629

1820: Bagot Commission recommends agriculture-based boarding schools, placed far from parental influence

1857: Gradual Civilization Act

1860: Management of "Indian Affairs" transferred from Imperial Government to Province of Canada

1860s–1870s: Macdonald's National Policy; Homestead Act; RCMP established to facilitate government control of West

1867: British North America Act

1869: Act for the Gradual Civilization of the Indian

1876: First Indian Act

1879: Nicholas Flood Darwin Report, submitted to Sir John A. Macdonald, makes 13 recommendations concerning the administration of industrial boarding schools

1882: Federal government and churches enter into formal partnership in the operation of Indian schools

1892: Nicholas Flood Davin Report, submitted to Sir John A. Macdonald, makes 13 recommendations concerning the administration of industrial boarding schools

1896: RCAP Final Report, Volume One, Chapter 10 concerns residential schools

1907: Indian Affairs' Chief Medical Inspector P.H. Bryce reports numerous deficiencies of the schools

1911: Cariboo Tribal Council publishes Impact of the Residential Schools; Phil Fontaine speaks publicly of abuse he suffered in the residential schools

1919: Partnership between government and churches ends; government takes over residential school system, begins to transfer control to Indian bands

1920: Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs Duncan Campbell Scott makes residential school attendance compulsory

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1940s–1950s: About one dozen residential schools operated by bands; one school operated by government at band request; gradually only a few remain, the last government-run school closing in 1996, and the last band-run in 1998

1942: Bagot Commission recommends agriculture-based boarding schools, placed far from parental influence

1944: Senior Indian Affairs officials argue for policy shift from residential to day schools

1947: Egerton Ryerson’s study of Indian education recommends religious-based, government-funded industrial schools

1949: Blue Quills first residential school to be transferred to band control

1958: Indian Affairs Regional Inspectors recommend abolition of residential schools

1960: Management of "Indian Affairs" transferred from Imperial Government to Province of Canada

1969: Partnership between government and churches ends; government takes over residential school system, begins to transfer control to Indian bands

1970: Blue Quills first residential school to be transferred to band control

1980s–1990s: About one dozen residential schools operated by bands; one school operated by government at band request; gradually only a few remain, the last government-run school closing in 1996, and the last band-run in 1998


2000: Government announces an Alternative Dispute Resolution Framework to provide compensation for residential school abuse

2002: Government launches the Indian Residential Schools Truth and Reconciliation Commission

2006: Government signs the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement with legal representatives for Survivors, AFN, Inuit representatives, and church entities

2008: Government launches the Indian Residential Schools Truth and Reconciliation Commission

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2009: Disclosures of abuse at Mount Cashel Orphanage

1847: Egerton Ryerson’s study of Indian education recommends religious-based, government-funded industrial schools

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